

# **OAKLAND~MAPLEVILLE FIRE DISTRICT OPERATING COMMITTEE**

## **Meeting Minutes SEPTEMBER 23, 2015**

### **Opening:**

The regular meeting of the Oakland~Mapleville Fire District Operating Committee was called to order at 7:02 pm on September 23, 2015 in the district fire station at 46 Oakland School St. Oakland, RI by Bob L'Esperance, Moderator.

Present: Richard Nolan, Peter Leone, Patricia St.Pierre, Leigha Joyal and Nicole Crandall; Commissioners Tom Demers, Ed Bertholic and Warren Steere; and Office Clerk Anne Chretien

**Absent:** Mike Cosetta, Chief Joe Bertholic

Moderator B. L'Esperance welcomed the newest member of the OM Operating Committee, Tax Assessor Nicole Crandall to her first meeting.

### **A. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the August 26, 2015 meeting were sent to all members for review prior to posting on the RI Secretary of State's web-site.

**Motion** was made by Pat St. Pierre to approve and waive the reading of the previous meeting minutes and seconded by Leigha Joyal.

Unanimously voted "Aye" by all present.

### **B. Commissioners Report**

- REP Construction completed repairing the roof and inserting and gluing the strips between the roof and the side wall today.
- One bid was received for the roof to be built over the door way at the office entrance.
- Letter was received from Mark Brizard requesting permission to purchase the plot of land owned by the District with a garage on it at P/L 214/098 on Victory Highway in Mapleville. Assessed value is \$1000. Mr. Brizard's offer is \$1000.
- T. Demers stated that after talking with Chief Bertholic, we recommend to sell this property once the garage is empty of items stored there by the OM Fire Department.
- Motion to accept Mark Brizard's offer of \$1000.00 for this property was made by Pete Leone and seconded by Leigha Joyal.
- Unanimously voted "Aye" by all present.
- Leigha Joyal will represent the District in the property transfer with M. Brizard's lawyer.

- Motion to accept the Commissioners Report was made by Pat St. Pierre and seconded by Pete Leone.
- Unanimously voted “Aye” by all present.

### **C. Chief’s Report**

- Due to the absence of Chief Bertholic, Moderator Bob L’Esperance read the Chief’s report.
- Runs for the month were 64. (See attached report.)
- We are averaging 4 persons per run. Call pay is definitely helping keep this number up.
- Asked by Leigha Joyal about how billing works when we assist another district with a call, the response from the Moderator was that whoever transports the person to the hospital, bills for that run.
- Motion to accept the Chief’s report was made by Leigha Joyal and seconded by Patricia St. Pierre.
- Unanimously voted “Aye” by all present.

### **D. Tax Assessors Report**

- N/A

### **E. Tax Collectors Report**

- Collections from 9/1/2015 to 08/31/2016 which includes current and prior year taxes, and interest and fees totaled \$2,196.56 as of September 23, 2015. Outstanding balance to be collected is \$478,041.26. See attached report.
- The 2015 Tax Bills will be mailed out the second week of October.
- Motion to accept the Tax Collectors report was made by Leigha Joyal and seconded by Pete Leone.
- Unanimously voted “Aye” by all present.

### **F. Treasurers Report**

- All bills are paid and up-to-date.
- The Treasurer transferred funds in the amount of \$5000.00 from regular checking account at BOA to per diem account at BOA and \$20,000.00 from NCU to BOA per diem account, due to an overdraft.
- Our records for fiscal year September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2015 have been brought to the auditors.

- Motion to accept the Treasurers Report as presented was made by Leigha Joyal and seconded by Richard Nolan.
- Unanimously voted “Aye” by all present.

#### **G. Old Business**

- By-Laws committee did not meet this month, but have set a meeting for Tuesday, October 20, 2015 at 6:30pm.
- Storage/Training Building Update- Progress is slow, but work is scheduled for Saturday, September 26.

#### **H. New Business**

- The four districts representatives met on Tuesday, September 22 at the Harrisville Fire District Office. Leigha Joyal attended. She reported that the meet and greet with state representative and senators on October 27, 2015 is to be held at Uncle Ronnie’s and board members and chiefs were to participate. She also stated that each district share the cost of the meal at Uncle Ronnie’s. Asked what the purpose of the meeting is by Pete Leone, Leigha responded that it was- future legislation; reporting issues; better communication between the reps/senators and the town fire districts; help to avoid another issue like Coventry. She was asked how this meeting at Uncle Ronnie’s developed. The Northern League used to have joint meetings and serve food and maybe this is how it developed. Leigha also reported that B. Gautreau made a presentation regarding the Burrillville Fire Alarm Inc. system in the town. She said it was informative. The item on the agenda regarding the Clear River Energy project in Pascoag was addressed by Dave Carpenter and he told the group that the topic was not open for discussion as it was Pascoag Fire District’s and they were in negotiation with them. Leigha stated that when this group got together it was to focus on recruitment and retention of members of the various fire departments and the survival of all districts. There have not been discussions along those lines.
  - Motion was made by Pete Leone to not appropriate tax payer monies to pay for the evening at Uncle Ronnie’s. Motion was seconded by Pat St.Pierre.
  - Unanimously voted “Aye” by all present.

Leigha also mentioned that at a previous meeting it was discussed to pay the clerk taking minutes \$80.00 per meeting or \$20.00 per district.

- Motion was made by Pete Leone to not pay the clerk who takes minutes at these meetings of all the towns’ fire districts. Motion was seconded by Leigha Joyal.
- Unanimously voted “Aye” by all present.

- Mark Brizard, tax payer, asked the committee consider changing the time of the annual meeting from 8:00pm to 7:00pm. This change could increase the attendance at the meeting. Bob L'Esperance said the By-Laws committee will look into at their next meeting. There is no specific time set for the meeting in either the By-Laws or the Charter.
- Leigha Joyal suggested replacing the Chief's vehicle due to its condition. The committee will speak with the Chief and look into it.

**I. Public Comment**

**J. Notifications and Announcements**

**K. Adjournment**

- **Motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 pm was made by Pete Leone and seconded by Patricia St.Pierre.
- Unanimously voted "Aye" by all present.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Anne Chretien, Office Clerk